

Ref: FOI2026-038

23 July 2026

We refer to your request for the following information:

"In FOI2026-028, AWE was asked to provide a list of documents about Operation Buffalo in 1956 held by third parties at home or abroad. A list of documents was provided held by the MoD. Your response stated: "We are able to disclose the titles of documents owned by AWE which have been transferred to the Ministry of Defence (MOD)."

** Can AWE confirm under S1(1) whether it holds a list of documents owned by AWE and transferred to a third party at home or abroad, other than the Ministry of Defence or National Archives*

** Can the AWE provide that list, along with S16 guidance about whichever entity holds the documents in question."*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

A search has been carried out to locate the information you requested and we can confirm that AWE has not been able to locate any relevant information.

Under section 16 of the Act, (duty to provide advice and assistance), you may find it helpful to note that the documents in question are owned by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) not AWE.

The wording of our previous response may not have made this distinction sufficiently clear. A more accurate statement would have been:

"We are able to disclose the titles of documents held by AWE and the titles of documents that have been transferred to the MOD."

For clarification, the documents currently held by AWE are held on behalf of the MOD which was the list provided to you in your previous request FOI2026-028. AWE acts solely as a custodian of these records and does not own the information.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to information.requests@awe.co.uk or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act

2000 you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team